



# Equity Council Agenda

**Zoom Meeting Time: March 17, 2021 4:00 - 5:00 PM**

## Welcomes & Introductions

- Executive Office of Health and Human Services Secretary Womazetta Jones welcomed the Council members

## COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Strategy Update | Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) Director Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott

- The main factor hindering rapid vaccine distribution to all Rhode Island adults continues to be lack of vaccine supply on the federal level.
- Vaccination rates in High Density Communities (HDCs) continue to be lower than non-HDCs.
- RIDOH is working through multiple channels to improve vaccination accessibility in High-Density Community (HDC) zip codes. This includes designating specific days for HDCs at mass vaccination sites, eliminating age restrictions for HDC zip codes, and working with retail pharmacies in HDC zip codes.
- For more information on COVID-19 vaccination and the status vaccine distribution in Rhode Island, please visit <https://covid.ri.gov/vaccination>

## Community Feedback: What are you hearing from the community? What should the State know?

- An Equity Council member voiced their desire to provide logistical help to get community members to mass vaccination sites. Dr. Alexander-Scott welcomed the assistance and gave Council members the High-Density Community lead contact information.
- A member voiced interest in receiving more specific data regarding why BIPOC populations in Rhode Island are not getting vaccinated.

## Next Steps

- State staff will provide Equity Council members with updated data slides prior to next meeting.

## Close

- Closing remarks given by Secretary Womazetta Jones

